

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as set forth below.

Please AMEND the paragraph at page 40, line 29 to page 41, line 3, as follows:

Preferably, although not necessarily, the method commences with a preliminary step, as shown in Figure 7, ~~in which~~ in which financial institution FI/SI pre-approves, for seller S substitution of a banker's acceptance for a first of exchange accepted by buyer B.

Please AMEND the paragraph at page 51, lines 22 to page 52, line 2, as follows:

By this process the invention accomodates paper documentation which is presently required by treaty for trade between two different legal jurisdictions, while providing for efficient electronic tracking, ~~recordal~~ recording and archiving, and accommodating the probable eventuality that electronic documentation will become an acceptable practice, by law or private contract, for trade within a single legal jurisdiction, or for trade between different jurisdictions, especially between national or supranational, jurisdictions. To this end, the novel first of exchange, as described herein, preferably comprises sufficient data, in an appropriate formal arrangement, to comply with relevant national and international law, more preferably with relevant international treaties and practices.

Please AMEND the paragraph at page 61, lines 19 - 23, as follows:

If desired, the third party administrator TPA can manage the process by which the payment between the parties to the first and second of exchange is applied to the payment process between the parties to the ~~pre-accepted~~ pre-accepted banker's acceptance. The details of such payment process can be noted on the bills of exchange in the information areas outside the bill of exchange area of the document.

Please AMEND the paragraph at page 68, line 22 to page 69, line 8, as follows:

Conventional financing methods employ either the difficult and unattractive letter of

credit process or require the manufacturer to await collection of the invoice, at term, after shipment, which may be several months. The methods of the invention can be used to enable a manufacturer selling through a trade intermediary to be paid promptly after shipment, from the proceeds of a pre-approved banker's acceptance. Provided that the trade intermediary is willing to wait for all or part of their money until the collection of payment from the buyer, in the second of exchange or first of exchange process, the banker's acceptance can be issued on behalf of the trade intermediary, in favor of the manufacturing supplier in the manner previously described for the seller. Using this practice, a major proportion of the transaction value, for example up to about 85 percent, can be paid to the manufacturer and, depending upon the particular arrangement between the manufacturer and the trade intermediary, it is possible that this proportional amount of the invoice value may be adequate fully to reimburse the manufacturer for his share of the ~~transaction~~ transactional, the balance, for example 15 percent, being the profit due to the trade intermediary.